

REMARKS

Claims 7 and 9-14 are pending. Claims 7, 11, 12 and 14 are being amended. Claims 10 and 13 are being canceled.

I. Claim Amendments

The Applicant herein amends claims 7, 11, 12 and 14. Specifically, claim 7 is being amended to incorporate the elements of claim 10, where the method further comprises rendering the basic services of the group inactive when at least one of the basic services of the group of basic services becomes unavailable. Claim 10 is therefore cancelled.

Claim 12 is similarly being amended to incorporate the elements of claim 13, where the server further comprises means for deactivating the basic services of the group of basic services when at least one of the basic services in the group of basic services becomes unavailable. Claim 13 is therefore cancelled.

Claims 11 and 14 are being amended to correct dependencies from the now cancelled claims.

II. Request for Continued Examination

The Applicant herein files a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR §1.114 along with the separately attached Request, required fee and claim amendment.

Claims 7 and 12 now recite that the basic services of the group of basic services are rendered inactive when at least one of the basic services of the group of basic services becomes unavailable. The Applicant submits that the previous rejections in the Office Action dated

December 28, 2007, are moot in view of the new amendments. Specifically, the Examiner admits on p. 9 of the Office Action that US Patent 6,199,066, to Glitho, “does not disclose the claimed features of rendering the basic services of the group inactive when at least one of the basic services in the group of basic services becomes unavailable,” as recited in newly amended claims 7 and 12.

The Examiner previously cited to US Patent 5,825,772, to Dobbins, as teaching the element of “rendering the basic services of the group inactive when at least one of the basic services in the group of basic services becomes unavailable.” The Examiner cited to the Abstract of Dobbins and stated, in the Advisory Action dated May 21, 2008, that Dobbins teaches that “a distributed call rerouting service is provided wherein if a link (‘basic service’) on an active path (‘group of basic services’) fails (‘inactive’), each switch receives a topology change notification and unmaps any connection involving the failed link (lines 15-18: ‘emphasis added’).” *Advisory Action*, paragraph 2.

It is apparent from the Examiner’s statement quoted above that the Examiner is confusing the “basic services” of the claimed invention with the “links” in a network path of Dobbins. In fact, Dobbins refers to the entire method of unmapping links and switches in a network path as a “distributed call rerouting service.” *Dobbins*, Abstract (emphasis added). The links themselves are just physical connections on a network path, not services. As indicated throughout the Specification of the pending Application, “services” are features that a telecommunication operator or service provider provides to a client. *Specification*, p. 1, lines 6-20. The service provider then “bundles” the services into a group, or bundle of services, to provide to a client.

Id. The “links” described in Dobbins, however, are not services but physical connections on a network path, presumably between nodes or switches. This physical component of a network is completely different, and has nothing in common with, a service that is provided to a client, as in the claimed invention. Therefore, Dobbins does not teach the element of claims 7 and 12, where a group of basic services is deactivated if one of the services in the group becomes unavailable. As such, neither Glitho nor Dobbins, taken alone or in combination, teach the elements of claims 7, 12 or their dependents.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/Scott H. Davison/
Scott H. Davison
Registration No. 52,800

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

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